



Showers and thunderstorms to-day or to-night; warmer.

WAR TALK BY THE BOERS

THE VOLKSRAD'S TONN DEFENDS, KRUGER URGES MODERATION.

British Reply to Question About Missing Troops on the Frontier—Transvaal Artillery Reported Moving in the Direction of Natal—Burgers Modified to Be Ready for Service—Kruger Says There is Still Chance for Conference to Avoid War.

PRETORIA, Sept. 7.—In the Volksraad today Secretary of War, Mr. Kruger, in reply to Sir Alfred Milner, British High Commissioner in South Africa, to the Transvaal's query as to why Great Britain was concentrating troops on the border of the Transvaal. It was to the effect that the British troops are being concentrated to guard British interests, and as a preparation against contingencies.

A debate followed regarding the mobilization of the British troops. The speeches were belated, and were applauded by the members and by the people in the public galleries. President Kruger appealed to the orators to moderate their language.

Jonkherr Dutoit said that he had had experience in the past of British treachery. If there should be war the Afrikaners would stand together. The Transvaal could go no further than she had gone, and as the British were sending forces toward the frontier the Transvaal must do likewise.

Jonkherr Wolmarans asserted that Mr. Chamberlain was attempting coercion and that troops were not necessary for peaceful negotiations. He urged an immediate counter-move by the troops of the Transvaal.

Jonkherr Van Rensburg attacked the British annexation project. He declared that agitation of the Rhodes clique wanted to get possession of the Transvaal to cover their failure and fraud in Rhodesia.

Jonkherr Tosen considered Sir Alfred Milner's reply equivalent to a declaration of war by Great Britain. Jonkherr Tosen was a member of the Executive Council, here interrupted Jonkherr Tosen saying:—"It is nothing of the kind." Jonkherr Tosen read a telegram from the Pretorius district stating that the people there would rise in rebellion if President Kruger went to another conference.

State Attorney Smuts said the burghers whom he represented had instructed him not to budge, but he would persuade them to allow him to do so if peace could thereby be preserved. He feared, however, that this was hopeless, as the independence of the Afrikaners was assailed.

Jonkherr Botha indicated that Mr. Chamberlain was influenced by his brother, who was chairman of the firm of Kynochs, ammunition manufacturers, which was in opposition to Nobel's ring in the dynamite matter.

Other speakers declared that the Jameson raiders were robbers and murderers and should have been hanged. The burghers, on the course of the debate President Kruger said that equal rights with the burghers had been offered to the aliens, but they would not take them. Mr. Chamberlain was striving to get a franchise which the Uitlanders did not want. He feared that Mr. Chamberlain really aimed at the possession of the country. The burghers were willing to give much for the sake of peace, but they would not sacrifice their independence.

He urged Mr. Gladstone's retrocession in 1883 as a noble deed. The President said that if a force came to fighting, the Almighty would be the arbiter. A reply from Mr. Chamberlain was now en route, and if the proposal for the appointment of a commission was agreed to the Republic would send delegates to further discuss the matters in dispute and, if possible, make peace.

The debate continued until late in the afternoon, and the Volksraad was worked into a pitch of patriotic fervor.

The Volksraad rose without passing the resolution which had called for the debate. The Boers regard the flight of the Uitlander leaders from the Rand with the utmost contempt, their action having produced demoralization among the masses who are without means to leave the country.

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ACQUITTAL FOR DREYFUS?

INDICATED BY THE COURT'S REFUSAL TO HEAR FOREIGN ATTACKS.

Such Suppression of the Truth, if Followed by a Verdict of Guilty, Would Probably Mean the Death of the French Republic—Evidence All in and Dreyfus's Lawyers Make the Closing Arguments To-day—The Verdict on Monday at the Latest.

RENNES, Sept. 7.—It is impossible to believe in the light of the ruling made to-day by the court martial that it is the intention of Dreyfus's judges to bring in a verdict of condemnation. They have deliberately refused to receive evidence, freely tendered, which alone can solve all doubts and rescue France from the moral and political chaos toward which the country has been drifting for five years.

This is not a crime in itself, but there are no words with which to describe the black iniquity of a judgment adverse to the prisoner following such a decision, which could operate only as the death warrant of the French Republic.

The correspondent of THE SUN prefers to believe that the seven judges are incapable of such a deed, and he insists, although it is contrary to the prevailing opinion in Rennes, upon interpreting to-day's rejection of Col. Schwartzkoppen and Col. Panizzardi's testimony as foreshadowing the acquittal of Capt. Dreyfus.

The trials now practically at an end. There remain only the closing arguments of the defense, and then the verdict. This will not be rendered until Monday, unless, possibly, the court decides to sit to-morrow afternoon in order to avoid the suspension of two days' delay.

Maitre Demange will speak during the greater part of the session to-morrow morning, and he will be followed by Maitre Labori, who will speak from one to three hours.

Before to-day's extraordinary decision rejecting the offer of Gorman and Italy to reveal the truth through their military attachés, opinion in Rennes, by a strong majority, held that the verdict would be against the prisoner.

This opinion is now somewhat shaken, for even some of the anti-Dreyfusites do not believe that the court-martial possesses the stupendous audacity to condemn the accused after refusing to hear the only real evidence which has been tendered during the trial.

It is significant of the present state of mind of impartial spectators here that of nine American correspondents sitting at dinner to-night, eight expected acquittal, four condemnation, and one dishonorable acquittal by a vote of four to three against the prisoner.

Immediately upon the assembling of the court-martial to-day Maitre Labori announced that he had received advice to the effect that Col. Panizzardi would make depositions before a commission and declined to come to Rennes. M. Labori therefore applied for the appointment of a commission to examine these officers and also to take a deposition from Lieut.-Col. Du Paty de Clam.

M. Paillole announced that this was the usual course and the Foreign Office was not opposed to it. Major Carrière, the Government Prosecutor said he had no objection to the forbidding an adjournment of more than eight days.

M. Labori then read the questions he desired put to Col. Schwartzkoppen. They were: On what date did you receive the bordereau, and the documents named therein?

Was it in the same handwriting as the one in possession of the court?

How long had you been in relations with the sender?

Did you send the petit bleu to Esterhazy?

Have you ever had direct or indirect relations with the accused?

Col. Jouanet announced that the court would deliberate later on this matter.

Several witnesses testified regarding points contained in Du Paty de Clam's deposition. Capt. Bernadotte, who was not named in the papers enumerated by Du Paty de Clam in the dossier sent to the first court-martial, were not now among the documents in the court. These were the papers discussing the resemblance in handwriting of the letter directed to Dreyfus by Du Paty de Clam, and the letter relative to a conversation between Du Paty de Clam and the accused, Capt. Bernadotte.

Col. Bernadotte, chief of the French Secret Service, was recalled and added a dramatic incident to the trial. He said that he had seen the bordereau and a revolver under some papers on a desk in front of Dreyfus and said: "In your situation perhaps it is better that you should kill yourself." Dreyfus replied: "I do not wish to kill myself because I must establish my innocence."

Gen. Mercier came forward to discuss Du Paty de Clam's deposition. He devoted himself almost exclusively to Capt. Freystaetter's evidence and again denied that a false rendering of Col. Panizzardi's despatch was included in the documents sent to the 1894 court-martial. He then described the return of the dossier from the court. Gen. Mercier opened the envelope and destroyed Du Paty de Clam's commentary. He handed the other documents to Col. Sandherr. Gen. Mercier also read a letter from Capt. Freystaetter to a friend in 1885 affirming that Dreyfus had been unjustly condemned. In conclusion Gen. Mercier urged the court to accept his original deposition and not to be influenced by Capt. Freystaetter's evidence.

M. Demange made a really spirited reply to Gen. Mercier, telling him he was mistaken in the rôle he assumed. He was a witness, not a defendant. This, however, was not a place for polemics, but a court for deciding the guilt or innocence of Dreyfus.

THE COURT REFUSES TO HEAR THE TRUTH.

The question of calling Colonels Schwartzkoppen and Panizzardi again arose. Major Carrière read the law on the subject. M. Labori said it was impossible to exaggerate the importance of these witnesses. The Government prosecutor agreed with this statement. M. Labori added that he should never have called them had not the Serbian refugee Cernouschi been introduced, but now it was absolutely necessary to do so.

The court retired to deliberate and returned in ten minutes. Then Col. Jouanet read a decision, which was unanimous on the point that the court was not competent under the regulations to order such a commission as M. Labori had requested. The discretionary power to do this rested solely on the President of the court. Col. Jouanet added that the president of the court he felt compelled to refuse to use this discretionary power in compliance with the defendant's request.

M. Labori was evidently astonished at this. He asked Col. Jouanet if he insisted on his refusal to take the testimony of the two witnesses referred to. Col. Jouanet replied: "I maintain this decision."

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FORMER ALDERMAN LEACH STRUCK DOWN WITH HEART DISEASE.

Had Just Finished a Speech and Sat Down Smiling Amid the Filiality of His Fellow Members When the End Came—Even His Wife Beside Him Did Not Know He Was Dead.

After responding to a toast at the reunion of the Veterans of the Forty-eighth New York Volunteers, at the Brighton Beach Hotel, last night, former Alderman Richard B. Leach of Brooklyn was stricken with heart disease and died in his seat at the banquet table. His wife, who was seated beside him, was not aware of her husband's death until told by a physician. He became hysterical and was seriously ill last night. The death brought the festivities to an abrupt close.

Mr. Leach had known for some time that he was afflicted with a weak heart. Last night, however, he was feeling exceptionally well. To his old comrades he presented a smiling face, and as he greeted each one, before the banquet was served, he had jokes and funny stories to tell of their old experiences as soldiers. When the collation was served, he partook of all the viands heartily and seemed to enjoy the spread. He also planned to make a speech and was finally called upon to speak himself. He talked for about ten minutes. Then he sat down, smiling, for his comrades had been liberal in their applause at his efforts.

During the next address, Dr. George W. Brant of 22 Spring place, Brooklyn, who was seated on the other side of the table, noticed that Mr. Leach suddenly became pale. His pallor was so great that it alarmed Dr. Brant, who made his way quietly around the table until he reached Mr. Leach and then bent over as if to speak to him. Even Mrs. Leach did not notice that anything was wrong with her husband. As Dr. Brant leaned over Mr. Leach, he saw that the latter did not move or pay any attention to him. There he felt Mr. Leach's pulse, and could not detect any pulsation. He opened his waistcoat and put his ear to Mr. Leach's heart. There was no sound.

By this time, the actions of Dr. Brant had attracted attention and Mrs. Leach was anxiously leaning over to ask what was the matter. Dr. Brant turned to her and said in a low tone that her husband was dead. Mrs. Leach immediately fainted and then became hysterical. She was assisted from the banquet room to a room in the hotel, where sedatives were administered to her. The lights in the banquet room were turned out and the reunion came to a close. Dr. Brant telephoned to Coroner Berger, who gave permission for the body to be removed to Mr. Leach's late home at 51 Putnam avenue, Brooklyn.

Mr. Leach was about 65 years old. He was in the coal business in Brooklyn for years. He was prominent in Republican politics and was a member of the Republican Central Committee. He was an Alderman in Brooklyn from the Seventh ward in 1882-3. He was a brother of the late Police Commissioner Oliver B. Leach. A widow and three children survive him.

CATHOLIC PRIEST WEDS.

Gives Up the Church for the Nurse With Whom He Fell in Love.

St. Louis, Mo., Sept. 7.—Father Charles Brady, a Catholic priest, secured a marriage license at St. Louis on Tuesday, and then went to the city of St. Louis, where he was married to Miss Addie Grace Quiner, Ill. by Justice Greenfelder. The couple then came to St. Louis and secured rooms at a fashionable boarding house on the corner of Garrison avenue and Locust street. Father Brady was assistant pastor at St. Vincent's church, St. Louis.

Recently he fell sick at a hotel in Quincy, and Miss Gwin, a trained nurse, was sent to attend him. When the young priest recovered he proposed and was accepted. The young lady is an Episcopalian, and her family sanctioned the marriage.

Father Brady, when seen at his boarding house, said: "I have done no dishonorable thing. I love the girl and married her. I do not believe in the celibacy of priests, and dispute some things in the authority of the Church. Therefore I decided to leave it. My marriage was a mistake, and I regret it. My resignation to Bishop Ryan, I expect to enter business life."

SENATOR HANNA'S TAXES.

Cleveland Officials Assess Him on Personal Property on Last Year's Returns.

CLEVELAND, Ohio, Sept. 7.—When Senator Hanna returns from Europe he will find that the tax officers have placed his name on the present tax duplicate, and that he will be required to pay taxes on personal property valued at \$47,250. When the assessors made their return last spring it was found that Senator Hanna's name was not on their list and that he had failed to make any return of personal property. The Board of Equalization sent a notice to him asking him to appear before them for explanation. The Senator, however, was in Europe and his secretary informed the board that Mr. Hanna would look after the matter on his return.

The Board of Equalization desired to make up their book, and did not wait for Mr. Hanna's return. To-day the board put Mr. Hanna upon the personal tax duplicate for the same amount of property that he was taxed last year. He paid taxes last year on eight horses valued at \$500, two cows valued at \$500, eleven carriages valued at \$12,000, one watch valued at \$50, and other personal property valued at \$2,500. The Senator was also taxed for \$2,800 in the bank and for three dogs.

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Several Big Boats Damaged and Fears Entertained for the Fishing Fleet.

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The British North Atlantic squadron, under Admiral Bedford, sails to-morrow for Montreal.

PANAMA CANAL PLANS.

Company Said to Have Made an Agreement With J. P. Morgan & Co.

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The bonds of the first Panama company will be accepted in payment at 20 per cent. of their nominal value.

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SCULPTOR STRUCK ON A TRAIN.

MR. BORER HAS BEEN WORKING ON THE DEWEY ARCH—TWO OTHERS HAVE DIED.

Herman Borer of 340 East 120th street, one of the sculptors employed on the Dewey arch, was stricken with paralysis or apoplexy on an elevated train last night, while returning home from a visit to friends in the Borough of the Bronx. He was attacked just before the train reached 143d street, and was removed to the station platform, where Ambulance Surgeon Powell of the Harlem Hospital attended him. He was taken home.

Two sculptors employed on the Dewey arch have died since that work was commenced. Mr. Borer's attack will not prove fatal, it is hoped. He is 62 years old.

HIT A ROCK IN HELL GATE.

MAINE STEAMSHIP MANHATTAN FATE BACK WITH A HOLE IN HER BOTTOM.

The steamship Manhattan of the Maine line, struck a rock in Hell Gate passage last evening on her way up the Sound to Portland, Me. She ripped a hole in her wooden bottom which let in considerable water, but not enough to sink her. The tide was rising at the time she struck, about 5:30 o'clock, and in about an hour the vessel floated off. She started back to the pier, towing her whistle to warn the company that things had gone wrong.

The Manhattan was tied up at Pier 38 at the foot of Market street, and a large force of longshoremen was set to work removing her cargo. She will probably be dry docked this morning.

There was a